



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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June 22, 1999

Cindy Shirk
HCFA – CMSO
Mail Stop S2-01-16
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21207-5187

Re: CHIP State Plan Amendment

Dear Ms. Shirk:

Please be advised South Dakota is requesting amendment to the State's Child Health Plan under Title XXI of the Social Security Act. This is in reference to the State Children's Health Insurance Program, commonly referred as CHIP. After conversation with HCFA staff in Denver, we understand amendment to the individual pages in the CHIP State Plan is not required and a cover letter explaining the requested amendment is satisfactory.

The only amendment we are requesting at this time is to the income eligibility to 140% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for all uninsured children, effective April 1, 1999. South Dakota's current CHIP plan offers eligibility for uninsured children ages 6 – 18 between 100% and 133% of the FPL. The requested amendment allows uninsured children ages 6 – 18 with family income between 100% and 140% of the FPL and uninsured children under the age of 6 with family income between 133% and 140% of FPL to be eligible for Medicaid under CHIP.

We estimate the impact of Federal dollars to be \$368,990 for FFY 1999 and \$737,980 for FFY 2000. These estimates are based on anticipated increased CHIP eligibility and average costs per CHIP recipient since July 1, 1998.

Your consideration and approval in this plan amendment will be greatly appreciated. Should you have questions regarding this letter or the amendment, please feel free to contact me at the address or phone number listed above. Thank you.

Sincerely,

James W. Ellenbecker, Secretary
Department of Social Services

Cc: Spencer Erickson
HCFA Regional Office